ARIZONA NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Steven Manheimer, Director 602-280-8850 or nass-az@nass.usda.gov

Issued by
USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Arizona Field Office
230 N. 1st Avenue, Suite 303
Phoenix, Arizona 85003
Visit us online at www.nass.usda.gov/az

Press Release Announcement – (January 13, 2006)

- For Immediate Release -

Arizona's Cotton Production Decreased From 2004

Arizona's all cotton production for 2005 is estimated at 628,000 bales, 14 percent lower than the final 2004 production. All acres for harvest, at 233,100, are down 7,900 acres from 2004. All cotton yield, at 1,293 pounds per acre, is down 158 pounds from last year.

Upland cotton production is expected to total 620,000 bales, down 14 percent from the 2004 crop. Yield is estimated at 1,300 pounds per acre, compared to 1,458 pounds per acre last year. Harvested acreage at 229,000 acres is down from 238,000 acres harvested in 2004. Arizona's American-Pima production is estimated at 8,000 bales for 2005. Harvested area is estimated at 4,100 acres for an average yield of 937 pounds per acre.

U.S. upland cotton production is estimated at a record high 23.1 million bales, up fractionally from the December 1 forecast and 2 percent above last year's production. The U.S. yield for upland cotton is estimated at 824 pounds per acre, unchanged from last month but 19 pounds less than last year's record high yield. Harvested area, at 13.4 million acres, increased marginally from last month and is 5 percent above 2004. Upland planted acreage is estimated at 13.9 million acres, 4 percent above last year.

American-Pima production is estimated at 655,000 bales, down 3 percent from last month and 12

percent from last year. The U.S. Pima yield is estimated at 1,171 pounds per acre, down 50 pounds from last month and 272 pounds from last year. Producers planted 270,400 acres of Pima cotton, up 8 percent from last year. Harvested area is estimated at 268,600 acres, up 3,600 acres from last month and up 8 percent from last year.

Arizona cottonseed production for 2005 is estimated at 243,000 tons, down 19 percent from last year. U.S. cottonseed production is expected to total 8.50 million tons, up 3 percent from 2004.

Arizona's citrus crop for 2005-06 is forecast as follows: lemons, 3.80 million boxes, up 58 percent; grapefruit, 100,000 boxes, down 29 percent; Valencia oranges, 200,000 boxes, up 5 percent; navel and miscellaneous oranges, 250,000 boxes, up 4 percent; and tangerines, 500,000 boxes, up 25 percent from the previous season.

Citrus production in California is forecast as follows: lemons, 19.0 million boxes, same as previous season; grapefruit, 6.00 million boxes, up 3 percent; Valencia oranges, 12.0 million boxes, down 33 percent; navel and miscellaneous oranges, 42.0 million boxes, down 2 percent; and tangerines, 3.10 million boxes, up 11 percent from the previous season.

Arizona durum wheat seedings for 2006 are estimated at 70,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from 2005. Other wheat seedings at 4,000 acres, are down 1,000 acres from last year.

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